Iowa Educators and Administrators Immersion Experience May 2007

The purpose of the Iowa Educators and Administrators Immersion Experience is to provide Iowa's educational leaders with the opportunity to experience firsthand the cultural and linguistic setting from which many of Iowa's most recent immigrant schoolchildren come.



Living with a host family, observing classroom instruction, and interacting with the host community more generally allows immersion participants to develop rich insights about the cultural and linguistic resources that Iowa's immigrant schoolchildren bring with them into the classroom.



From these insights comes the capacity not only to recognize the differences these children bring, but also to acknowledge their implications for teaching and learning, and the need to make provisions in curriculum and instruction.



The destination for the May 2007 immersion experience was Villachuato, Michoacán, México. These photos provide merely a snapshot of the participants' Immersion trip experiences.

For more information, contact Katherine Richardson Bruna, trip facilitator, at krbruna@iastate.edu.



May 2007 Participants

- Jeanne Angel, ELL Facilitator, Waterloo
- Brenda Auxier-Mailey, Student Services Director, Urbandale
- Ellen Fairchild, Lecturer, Iowa State University
- Brenda Ferrie, Principal, Sacred Heart School
- Dave Henrichs, Superintendent, Lenox



May 2007 Participants

- Sharon Jenson, Assistant Professor, Simpson College
- Betsy Nefzger, School Improvement Facilitator, Keystone AEA
- Carole Richardson, Assistant Professor, Simpson College
- Lisa Stevenson, Curriculum Director, West Liberty



May 2007 Participants

- Chad Wahls, Principal, Postville
- Mike Wells, Superintendent, Corning



Anxious at the Airport





Excited on the Airplane





We're "Home"!





Let's Eat!





Exploring the Community













Getting to Know New Friends: The Locals . . .





And Each Other!





Iowa's Educators and Administrators Go Back To Middle School





Learning in a New Language is Tough: Can You Help Me Out Here?









Students Show Off Some New Technology





We Even Give It a Try





Students Practice a Dance for Mother's Day



And Then Pose for a Picture





Others Shoot Some Hoops





Mónica, the English Teacher, Does Some Q&A





We Say Goodbye to the Middle School





And Hit the Streets Again: A Surprise Around Every Corner













Scenes from "Home": Sharing Learning with New Family









While They Share Their Lives With Us





















How Do You Say "Ice Cream" in Spanish?





Other Ways of Joining In: Soccer Games . . .





Board Games





And Kick Ball









Back To School Again: This Time It's Elementary!





Checking Out Classrooms











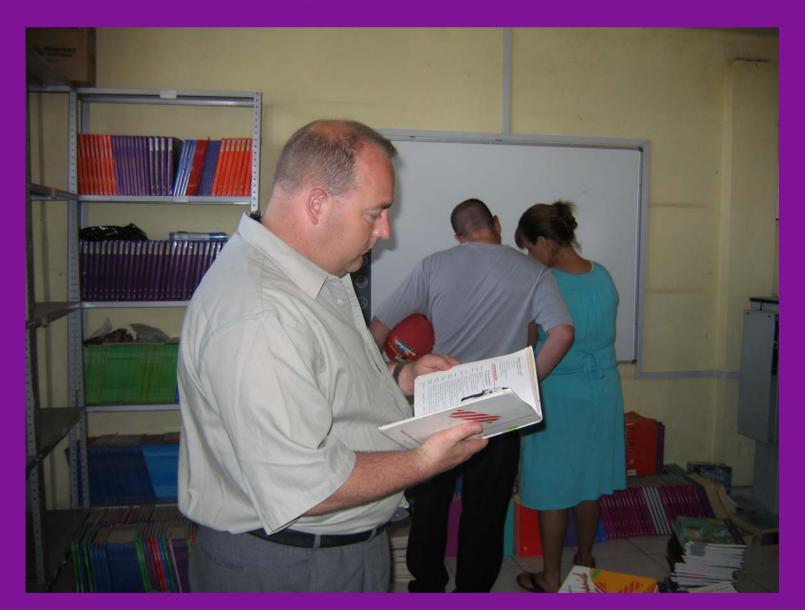








Checking Out Curriculum





And Just Hanging Out





This Student is a Nebraskan!





Time for 10:30 Taquitos





Families Deliver Home-Cooked Meals to School





Who's Behind the Camera Now?





A Space for Reflection: A Day's Debrief





And a Much-Needed Nap





El Día de Santa Cruz: A Special Saint's Day Celebration . . . Music





Dancing . . .





And a Parade





Into Church





And Onto the Mountain





Final Glimpses: Nati with her Birds





Michi hiding behind some pots





Fredi With His Chicken





A Caring Family





A Sad Goodbye





And the Journey Home: Where Will the Learning Take Us?





Many Thanks to May 2007 Participants and the Host Families and Community

You Were the Heart of the Experience!

